TL1135

tapol

The Indonesia Human Rights Campaign

111 Northwood Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR4 8HW telephone and fax 01 771 2904
[illegible] GECO:TAPOL

Honorary President: Lord Avebury; Honorary Treasurer: Tom Soper; Organising Secretary: Carmel Budiardjo

Urgent Memo: 3 July 1989

As indicated in Memo of 28 June, we have drafted a document on human rights violations for all members of the UN Sub-Commission on Prevent of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. The document, drafted in consultation with CDPM covers four headings: Basic Rights (about lack of political freedoms, freedom of movement, etc; Summary Executions and Maltreatment (which includes some recent instances, including info from Bishop Belo); Waves of Arrests in Late 1988 (arrests of school-children after a demonstration in Dili in July and the October-November arrests); and Detentions and Summary Executions since May 1989, with a list of names.

I hope you will agree to leave the drafting to our two organisations, and endorse the following letter. If you agree, we shall include your organisation's name on the letter. Please let me know by return, by phone or fax. We must send this by mid-July. As soon as the final draft of the document is completed which shall send you a copy.

Draft letter to the Members of the UN Sub-Commission

Dear.....

In the past few months, the human rights situation in East Timor has sharply deteriorated. After two waves of mass arrests in August and October-November last year, the Indonesian security authorities have recently started arresting dozens of people in Dili and Baucau as well as some Timorese students studying at the Udayana University in Bali. A number of extra-judiciary killings have also been reported.

Whereas previously information about human rights abuses have reached the outside world only after a delay of several months or even after a year or more, it has recently been possible to obtain information with a few days or weeks of the violations. It is therefore possible for the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, at is 41st Session in August, to consider more up-to-date information than was previously available to it.

Another important development is that the Jakarta-based Institute for the Defense of Human Rights has, for the first time, publicly expressed concern about the human rights situation in East Timor. In a letter to General Try Soetrisno, commander-in-chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces on 15 June 1989, the Institute said it had been informed that "*at the beginning, in the middle and at the end of May, hundreds of people had been arrested and there had even been executions of people without trial. They were detained on suspicion of supporting Bishop Belo's letter to the United Nations. These actions are not only in conflict with basic human rights but also infringe the provisions of the Constitution and the Criminal Procedures Code (KUHAP).*" The Institute said that if these reports were true, General Try Soetrisno should investigate the activities of those officials responsible. In a second letter on 23 June, the Institute submitted to General Try Soetrisno a list of people who had been arrested in East Timor. Up to the present, the Institute has not received any reply to its letters. Since then, the Institute has made available a list of names of people executed since March this year.

The Indonesia Human Rights Campaign, TAPOL, together with .... (the number given here) East Timor solidarity organisations around the world which are listed below earnestly beg the UN Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to give careful consideration to the human rights situation in East Timor at its 41st Session in Geneva in August. In preparation for your discussion, we attach a Memorandum on Human Rights Violations in East Timor.